struggle of ownership and rulership to free themselves from each other was finally successful.

The other main question dealt with is the actual origin of the towns, or rather of certain "old county towns," as Professor Maitland restrictively describes them. He reverts to his theory propounded in "Domesday Book and Beyond," and elsewhere, that these towns were deliberately founded, built, and supported for purposes of national defence. "The shire maintains the burh; the burh defends the shire." He acknowledges the weight of the criticism of this view, and hismelf modifies its applicability, but on the whole does not seriously change it. He brings into greater prominence, however, the concomitant characteristics of the borough as the principal market of the shire and the meeting place of its moots, as well as its stronghold. He points out that although such towns were originally deliberately organized for tribal or national purposes and policy, mainly military, and on this account had a special peace and protection, yet all their subsequent history was modified by the growth of trade. Then the town got a charter and gradually became indistinguishable in all its salient characteristics from other towns which had no such military origin. So Professor Maitland's theory applies to fewer towns than he seemed before to claim, and it controlled less exclusively the destinies of those to which it did apply.

That the book is a valuable contribution to the subject goes almost without saying. But with all our admiration of Professor Maitland's work, we are impressed with the feeling that this book is less fully thought out, less carefully constructed, and less condensed in matter and value than most of his work which has preceded it.

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Pure Economics. By Professor MAFFEO PANTALEONI. Translated from the Italian by T. Boston Bruce. Pp. xiv, 315. Price, $3.50. London and New York: The Macmillan Company, 1898.

This translation of the "*Principii di Economia Pura*" ought to receive a hearty welcome in England and America. Professor Pantaleoni is widely known in and outside of Italy as a well-equipped and efficient teacher, writer, editor and reformer. The book before us is written in the author's usual clear and forceful style, with a wealth of diction well preserved in the translation. We do not know where else in English can be found so compact and excellent an epitome of modern economic theory. A few parts, indeed, are out of keeping

with the best modern thought, a fact which only goes to show that economic science has not stood still in the nine years since the original work appeared. The references to economic literature are, however, pretty well brought down to date, and a page is added on Pareto's "Theory of Rent." Historical footnotes form an essential and valuable feature. Professor Pantaleoni takes great pains to give due credit to all who have contributed to the progress of economic science, associating with each theorem the name of the writer who did most to establish it. The author's knowledge of economic literature is prodigious. So far as we are capable of judging, his criticisms are discriminating and impartial, save, we believe, in the case of Böhm-Bawerk (pp. 63, 130, 169, 252, 253). Aside from the classical economists, the authors who have most influenced Professor Pantaleoni seem to be Ortes, Gossen, Dupuit, Ferrara, Jennings, Jevons, Menger, Walras, Wieser, Sidgwick, Marshall and Pareto. As this list shows, mathematical modes of thought attract him. His book is full of the mathematician's spirit of precise formulation and demonstration, of keen analysis, which separates out and studies each factor by itself. But the book is meant for general readers and mathematics are very properly restricted to their most elementary forms. Diagrams are used lavishly, but the calculus not at all.

The work consists of: Part I, on Utility; Part II, on Value, and Part III, on "Applications of the General Theory of Value to Determinate Categories of Commodities." A more complete, instructive and suggestive presentation of the modern theory of utility could scarcely be found. The author even goes a little beyond the strict limits of his subject to discuss some of the more purely psychological problems involved. Wants imply *pain*. Their satisfaction implies a reduction of that pain. This reduction or extinguishment of pain is, according to Professor Pantaleoni, probably all that is meant by "pleasure." Jennings' classification of wants is adopted. They relate either to one of the five special senses or to "common" sensations. The latter wants are the more urgent. "The desire to gaze on statuary or flowers soon vanishes under the influence of hunger, thirst, cold, excessive heat, or sickness" (p. 49).

Emphasis is laid on the fact that the distinction between real and "imaginary" wants is of little consequence. "Probably a large proportion of the medicines of to-day are commodities of a kind which a later generation, if more enlightened than ourselves, will pronounce to be imaginary" (p. 61). Yet they find a ready market and possess high economic value. The principle here involved (that it is the estimate rather than the reality which counts in the market) seems to us to have a wider application than Professor Pantaleoni has given it.

Is it necessary, for instance, to predicate of the "*homo oeconomicus*" perfect foresight and papal infallibility (pp. 87, 240); or to insist that future pleasures or pains must rationally be considered equivalent to present ones except for the uncertainty of being realized (pp. 27, 89, 253)?

Part II contains a luminous criticism of various methods of measuring wealth and as good a discussion of the determination of value as elementary methods afford. For simplicity, no account is taken of the discrepancy between the curve of utility and the curve of demand (p. 155, note). The important and intricate subject of "complementary" commodities (such, *e. g.*, as a horse and a carriage) is a favorite theme with Professor Pantaleoni. The difficulties of apportioning total utility among complementary commodities are discussed (p. 82), and Gossen's and Wieser's peculiar views set forth (p. 218). The application of these ideas to the complementary commodities, "labor and capital," is highly original and suggestive (p. 290).

A very conspicuous merit of the work is the co-ordination of scattered theorems and the facility with which the author gathers up a number of propositions under a single generalization. Exchange and production are both cases of cost or sacrifice and for many purposes can be treated under the same head. In its most general sense, "value" does not imply exchange between two persons and so does not (as is generally believed) imply the existence of "society" (p. 127). It only implies the sacrifice of one commodity for another. Again, utility and cost are interchangeable by reversing signs. This enables us to reconcile doctrines apparently opposed and to translate every theorem of utility into a corresponding theorem of cost (p. 170). A number of examples are given (pp. 173-9).

The law of *relative* cost is carefully expounded. The richer bidder at an auction sale succeeds in carrying off the costly painting or book, not because he wants it more than his rival, but because he needs the money less (p. 130, note). One nation may have the advantage in producing a particular article and yet prefer to import it, for the simple reason that its advantage in producing *other* articles is still greater. Hence the general rate of wages in a country cannot greatly affect its foreign trade, because it affects all lines so nearly alike that the *relative* advantage is not disturbed (p. 179, note). The parts on foreign trade receive an added interest in the English edition, owing to the extent to which the author has used Marshall's unpublished "Pure Theory of Foreign Trade." We have here, as it were, some advance sheets of Marshall's second volume.

Part III purports to treat of the value of particular commodities, viz., money, land, capital and labor. It is occupied chiefly, however,

with the problems of interest, rent, profits and wages. These concepts, unlike the "values" previously considered, include a *time* element. Their discussion is the least satisfactory in the book. Capital is defined as "direct [*i. e.*, 'enjoyable'] commodities which supply the immediate wants of men whilst they are engaged in the preparation of other commodities" (p. 244), a definition as barren, it seems to us, as the wage fund theory which it is designed to bolster up. These parts of the book are the only ones where obscurity and inconsistency can be found. First we are told that wages are paid out of a previously accumulated stock, the "*wage fund*" (pp. 246, 303). Then suddenly, that "the capital which remunerates labor is a flow and *not* a fund" (p. 307). At first, capital is to consist solely of enjoyable commodities (such as food, clothing, furniture, etc.), but afterward we hear of "capital, such as public stocks, shares, bonds, lands, etc." (page 261, note). On one page "capital awaiting investment exists in the form of money" (p. 262) and on the next "capital and money are essentially different."

The discussion of money is clear, concise, and, as we believe, correct. It is explained that the cost of money is a dead loss (p. 238) and that money has no residual utility (p. 76), the reason, in both cases, being that a small quantity is just as effective as a large. Residual utility exists for the individual, however (p. 77, note). The Quantity Theory, Gresham's Law, the functions of money, the properties of good money and the reasons for the acceptability of money are sketched with a master's hand.

We believe we express not only our own opinion but that of most of Professor Pantaleoni's readers, when we say that his compact little treatise is one of the most valuable acquisitions of modern economic literature.

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